

# THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF HOMEOPATHY.

*"The agitation of thought is the beginning of Truth."*

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## AMERICAN JOURNAL OF HOMEOPATHY.

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SECOND EDITION.

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### CAUTION IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF DRUGS.

Whatever imperfections there may be in the healing art, we know enough to be able to treat diseases with a tolerable degree of certainty; but it is madness, it is downright wickedness, for the uneducated and the inexperienced to attempt to prescribe drugs for the sick. It may have always been so, that almost every man and woman believe themselves competent to give an opinion of diseases and prescribe the remedies. Without hesitation, these uneducated and uninitiated persons prescribe the most poisonous drugs in the most desperate cases of

disease. In fact, the more severe the malady, the greater is their confidence in prescribing. They often urge the administration of drugs, on the ground that the attending physician has but little hope of the case; therefore, say they, there is no harm in "doing all we can," judgment and skill being of no consequence in such circumstances; forgetting a common-sense rule, that the more desperate the case, the greater the necessity of adhering strictly to known principles in the treatment. Physicians themselves sometimes forget this rule, and go on blindly in their work.

In our school there are those who think, and their old school friends in and out of the profession help them to think, that our *small doses* can do no harm. This is a great error, and the time is not far distant when it will be acknowledged. We assert, and are prepared to prove it, that a quack in homeopathy is a most dangerous person, and he should be known and avoided. Allow a quack in homeopathy to prescribe for a person predisposed to *phthisis pulmonalis*, and it is not unlikely he may awake this terrible disease, and render it impossible for the most skillful treatment to repair the injury. Some physicians recommend their patients to procure boxes of medicines and prescribe for themselves and families, especially tinctures, in what is called ordinary cases.

We cannot conscientiously give sanction to this custom to the extent it is carried at the present day. We have more than once seen the evil of it. Often have we visited the sick, and would be told that some half dozen or more drugs had been given by the advice of a relative or friend. On investigating a case under these circumstances, we find a state of confusion in the symptoms, which renders it quite impossible, with any degree of certainty, to select the appropriate remedy. On the contrary, if we had seen the case at the first, a single dose of the indicated drug would have promptly cured it.

There was a time in the history of our experience in homeopathy, when we did not hesitate to administer large and repeated doses of drugs; but experience has taught us to beware how we use the *small doses*, even of the 30th attenuation. Some of our professional brethren may smile, but we declare a truth, of which we hope to convince them. It is not an easy task to familiarize one's self with drug symptoms and an acute observer of our school is often the object of ridicule, because he pretends to see those symptoms, where an ordinary observer, and one unpractised, can see nothing at all. How often have we had it said to us, "there is no effect of the medicine," while it was, as it seemed to us, impossible for any but the blind not to perceive, and fully recognize, the curative effects of the drug employed.

### **HOMEOPATHY GOING DOWN.**

Soon after Hahnemann made known his system of disease and its treatment, the cry was raised "homeopathy is going down;" and it would seem that as is its prosperity, so is the loudness of the cry, especially in this city. We will not deny that here and there a respectable family may have abandoned what they regarded homeopathy; yet there are few indeed who have lost confidence in homeopathy, where the practice was strictly in accordance with those rules which Hahnemann established, and to which he firmly adhered to his dying day. It is well known to the profession that there are those who see fit to treat diseases by what is termed a *mixed* practice. Of this we do not complain provided it be understood by the physician and his patients that it is not homeopathy: that it is not Hahnemann's practice. We cannot remain silent and allow the term homeopathy to be thus unappropriately employed. Homeopathy is not "going down," but it is *going up*. It has become a little too popular for its true interest; conversions are sudden and numerous, the result of which is only a partial knowledge of it, which leads to an imperfect practice, which of course fails—always fails in chronic diseases, and frequently in acute ones.

How strange, that our opponents should not perceive that at this moment in almost every part of the world, allopathy is modified by homeopathy, and especially, is this so in our own country. It is well known that our school is opposed to blood letting, and for several years past students have been cautioned on blood

letting by teachers in the medical schools, which at one time was almost the only reliance in the treatment of diseases. But now, he that does not observe caution with the lancet, is regarded by our opponents as behind the age in medical knowledge. It is a common remark by allopathic physicians, which thousands can testify to, that they do not employ half or one third as much medicine as they did formerly, and we do not question their veracity in this respect. It is also well known that prescriptions are more simple than formerly, not so many drugs mixed together, but a single drug given by itself, a thing unheard of a few years ago. All this and much more, which might be named, we take as evidence that even allopathic physicians themselves are being witnesses that homeopathy is not going down.

### **OBJECTIONS TO HOMEOPATHY CONSIDERED.**

It is thought by some who have no experience in Hahnemann's practice, that we do not use what is known of the character of diseases. This is an error, and we do not see how it is possible for those who pretend to have studied Hahnemann should fall into it. We are sure that those who declare this, can have no clear understanding of homeopathy; for it is absolutely necessary that the true character of each case of disease should be made out, as the very first step to the treatment. In doing which, we avail ourselves of all the well ascertained diagnostic symptoms with as great care as the most strenuous advocate of pathology can possibly require, and if we may be allowed to boast a little, we think, that the true disciple of Hahnemann is as well skilled in determining the character of diseases as he of any other school. Of one thing we are certain, that all the knowledge we can acquire of an individual case of disease, can be made available by us, which is not true of the allopathic practitioner. If we know the actual condition of the sick, we can adapt our remedies to it, with a precision which we know is altogether unknown among those of the old school. There will be no guess work about it. We do not say *probably* such a prescription may relieve; but we say—such a drug when indicated by the law '*similia similibus*,' will promptly and safely cure this patient, and we are not disappointed in the result. This is experience and not theory only—this is fact, and not mere speculation.

### LAWS OF HEALTH.

Let an individual, naturally possessing a good constitution, free from taint or any innate dynamic cause of disturbance to the equal distribution and healthy action of the vital force, take nothing into his stomach but that which is naturally adapted to its functions, of easy digestion, and suitable for every purpose of nutrition. Let him breathe pure air, which shall produce the requisite changes in the blood, and exercise his physical powers in such a manner as to secure their full developement, and his mental powers in a manner adapted to give perfection of form and consistence to the brain, upon which the vital action and appropriate functions of every part or organ of his system depends. Let him, further, observe such hours of sleep as may be demanded by healthy exercise of his bodily and mental powers; securing by water ablutions, the cleanliness and true functions of the skin, and, finally, avoiding exposure to noxious influences and unnecessary fatigue. Such an individual will have secured a basis of health, if he will not have rendered himself invulnerable to the attacks of disease; or, if he should be affected by those of a specific nature, they would be of a light, superficial character, from which he need apprehend no serious or fatal effects, and which would be directly and easily cured by a remedy selected upon the principle, *similia similibus curantur*. And, at last, escaping accidents, he would die from a natural waste of the powers of life, free from pain and suffering.

Assuming these premises to be true, and they are so considered by many or all physiologists, the first condition to the enjoyment of perfect health, to wit, the inheritance or possession of a sound and vigorous constitution, free from any sort of taint, will bring us at once to the consideration of the origin and propagation of disease.

### HOMEOPATHY, ALLOPATHY AND YOUNG PHYSIC.

BY JAMES QUIN, M. D.

"The effects of malaria, in penetrating the system, and giving rise, in some instances, to rapidly fatal symptoms, are also well known; yet no one has ever been able to detect any specific matter of contagion, although many attempts have been made. It is said that an insectæque was produced by the canal at Versailles, though it was little larger than a fish-

pond. It is the opinion of Dr. McCulloch and that of several Italian physicians, that a single inspiration of malaria may be quite sufficient to cause disease. Lancisi says, that as thirty ladies and gentlemen were making an excursion of pleasure up the Tiber, the wind suddenly shifted to the south, coming over the Pontine marshes, and twenty-nine were instantly taken ill only one escaping. Indeed, so subtle is its influence, that in the case of vessels lying off an unhealthy shore, the difference of half a cable's length from the coast, has caused vessels to suffer or escape."

How much matter is there in the atmosphere that thus deals disease and death on every hand? Again; a single grain of musk will diffuse its perfume for years in a room, the air of which may be renewed daily, and yet at the expiration of the time the perfume will be as strong as at first, and the grain of musk will still weigh a grain: now, as smelling is produced by the particles of the aromatic substance flying off and coming in contact with the olfactory nerve, what must be the size and number of decillions of decillions of particles, whose aggregate weight amounts (appreciably) to nothing at all? Why, compared with them, the atoms of the highest homeopathic attenuation are as mountains to the sands on the sea-shore. We think Dr. Forbes has here a fine field for the exercise of his arithmetical powers. Nay, still farther, the very operations of the mind—hope, fear, joy and grief, have severally produced sudden effects, altogether beyond the power of the most "heroic" allopathic drug. Instances are not rare, of persons being struck dumb by terror, and of others restored from that state by the same cause. Many persons have had their hair turned gray, in one night, nay on the instant, from sudden fright. Where has been the *matrices morbi* in all these instances? Away then with the childishness which seeks *material causes* for appreciable effects!

In reference to the doubts in regard to the efficacy of the homeopathic doses, Mr. Sampson says:

"Now it is difficult to conceive the reasons which have induced this doubt. Medicines are given to act upon the various tissues of the human frame, and even the coarsest of these tissues present a delicacy of structure which it is impossible for us more than faintly to appreciate. A little reflection, indeed, will convince us that there must be some portions of our organization, of the fineness of which the human mind would be inadequate to form the slightest conception.

It will also appear that these structures are of far higher importance towards the maintenance of his life than the coarser or more outward portions of the frame, and that disease becomes dangerous and severe in proportion to the extent to which they are affected. In the most deep-seated affections, therefore, it is to these tissues that the powers of medicine have to be directed: and when we know that medicinal substances, like all material bodies, are infinitely divisible: that we can never, by any process, reduce them to atoms so fine but that they might still be infinitely reduced; it seems at once obvious, that if we wish them to reach and act upon those parts to which I have alluded, and in relation to some of the delicate machinery of which the finest atoms to be attained from our very highest attenuations would appear coarse and ponderable, we must endeavor to bring them not only into a finer state than that in which they are ordinarily used, but into a state of exigency far beyond anything to which we have been accustomed in dealing with coarser structures. It is simply, in fact, proportioning the delicacy of our agents to the delicacy of the instruments upon which they are to operate. 'From the rapidity and infinite variety of the phenomena of proportion,' says Sir Humphrey Davy, 'it seems extremely probable that there must be in the brain some nervous matter of a nature far more subtle and refined than anything discovered in them by observation and experiment; and that the immediate connexion between the sentient principle and the body may be established by kinds of ethereal matter which can never be made evident to the senses.'

That this view is a correct one, few will be disposed to question. 'We cannot entertain a doubt,' Sir Humphrey Davy farther observes, 'but that every change in our sensations and ideas must be accompanied with some corresponding change in the organic matter of the body; and when it is thus considered that our very thoughts must, in order to their permanence and manifestation in this life, be impressed on our nervous system, and that the recurrence of some specific idea, though, perhaps, a trivial accidental circumstance, after a lapse of forty or fifty years, or the remembrance of a particular spot seen only once during our lives, or of some particular odour or taste, must all depend upon certain conditions of our material structure caused at the time of the occurrence of the events

to which they relate, we see at once how completely we are carried behind the bonds of our ordinary conception, and how ignorant & thoughtless those persons must be who assert that of course agents will not reach and act upon the higher structures of the system, it "impossible and incredible that finer ones should succeed."

Again:

"It is well known that the faculty of absorption is observed to take place with the greatest facility in those tissues which are characterized by a fine and delicate structure and great vascularity; and it is obvious that, according to the minuteness of the medicinal agent, must be the facility with which it is received into these parts. So far, therefore, from there being anything wonderful in the circumstance of the infinitesimal doses of the homeopathists producing effects such as have never been observed to arise from the administration of medicines in a coarser form, it would be, to those who consider the facts just referred to, and who are accustomed to contemplate "the mysterious and recondite phenomena of organized being," a legitimate source of surprise if such circumstances were not observable. Some of the vessels of the system must be so small, that a hair, in comparison with them, would probably present as much difference in relative size as there is between a needle and a mast of a ship; and it is upon structures such as these that medicines are required to act.

\* \* \* \* \*

Now supposing it an object to affect these parts by medicine, which mode of administering them, would a rational person—even without reference to experience, but merely judging from what he would consider *probable*—be disposed to regard with the most favorable anticipations? Knowing the delicacy of the human system, and the avidity with which nature at once seizes upon all aids to restore it from peril, would he be disposed to feel surprise upon a medicine, known to have a particular relation to the affected organ, and divided into atoms so small as to bear some relation to the delicacy of that organ, being bound to produce a palpable effect, while comparatively crude masses of the same substance would produce nothing but disturbance to the coarser structures, which structures would immediately perform an effort to neutralize or expel them.\*

\* Consolations in Travel, p. 214.

† When poisons have been taken in a state of

We all know that a moderate sized pebble may be applied to the surface of the eye without producing any unpleasant effect; while, if the same pebble were reduced to a powder, and one atom of that powder were applied to the same part the most unendurable symptoms would immediately arise.

There is a curious case, also mentioned on the authority of Dr. King, of Brighton, who dined one day in company with a lady, who went into convulsions as soon as her plate was put before her, owing to its containing some peas which had been boiled with mint. She was carried out of the room, and did not entirely recover all the evening.

Certain odours, as musk, the odour of the rose, various flowers, &c., are, in many asthmatics followed by distinct fits; and exposure to effluvia or subtle vapours, as those of ipecacuanha, frequently produce similar consequences.

\* \* \* \* \*

There is a case equally remarkable, showing the effects of ipecacuanha in this disease, recorded by Dr. Scott, in the *Philosophical Transactions* for 1776. The patient was the wife of an apothecary, and became subject to regular attacks of asthma after her marriage. For some years no particular cause was suspected; but it was at length discovered that the paroxysm invariably came on when ipecacuanha was powdered in the shop. This practice was accordingly discontinued, and she continued well eight or ten years, until one day when her husband again brought home some powdered ipecacuanha, and opened the packet in order to put the drug into a bottle, 'his wife not being far off at the time, and in perfect health.' This occasioned a most violent fit of asthma, which lasted eight days, becoming better during the day, and much worse at night.

How much ipecacuanha did this druggist's wife inhale? what was its weight? what would it look like, if put on the end of a pen-knife? Shame on such material doctrines!

To be Continued.)

#### HOMOEOPATHIA REVEALED.

*A brief position of the whole system, adapted to general comprehension, with a notice of psora, and Dr. Duringe's objections.* By ALEXIS EUSTAPHIEVE. Second edition, &c. Inscribed to JOHN FORBES, M. D., F. R. S.

This is an octavo pamphlet of 100 pages,

minute division, it is singular how ineffectual vomiting proves in expelling them from the stomach.—Christison.

printed and published by D. FANSHAW, 375 Broadway, N. Y.

This work first appeared in 1837, and we remember to have read it at that time with approbation. It is now somewhat enlarged by an able introduction, addressed to JOHN FORBES, M. D. F. R. S., and from which we take the following extract, to which we ask the close attention of our readers.

"Be it then known to you, that since the publication of my little work in 1837, I have made my pilgrimage to the living fountain of Homœopathia—have gazed upon the countenance, listened to the voice, and pressed the hand of 'the sublime old man,' ere long to be enshrined by grateful posterity among the greatest benefactors of mankind. I did more. I laid my humble revelations before him, and was honored with his unqualified approbation. The doctrines and principles laid down in them as the constituent elements of Homœopathia, were pronounced true and genuine by him from whom she sprang, as did Minerva from the brain of Jupiter. The means as therein explained, which attest her existence and modify her action, were in like manner acknowledged by him who first discovered, adjusted, and put them into practice. In short, he that conceived the bright original, and breathed his spirit into it, recognized its embodied image in the portrait.

In such circumstances, I trust, you will not think it strange or unpardonable that I should speak, and think it even my duty to speak of my work as I would of another man's work with the same sincerity and freedom. In truth, I feel that it has gone from me—that it belongs now to the public, not to be deprived of its property by my interposition. It is so far ahead of the author that he perforce must part with it, and be content to rest unnoticed in the rear. Other hands, more powerful than his, have placed it on the summit of authority, and there it must stand, palpable to sight, a beacon by whose light the true and false disciples may at once be contradistinguished and identified. The former will hail it with cordial welcome, the latter may be compelled to show cause why they should not be numbered with those whom the great master spirit had DISOWNED so formally and on all occasions.

A work of this character was never needed more than at the present hour, when a laxity on one side, and encroachments on the other, have placed the deity of health in that false, inverted position, against the danger of which the public

cannot be too soon or too officiously warned. It is quite time to stop, if possible the immolation of victims on the altar, and in the name of the very power that was sent forth to save them ; and the martyr who felt the rack may well be permitted the poor consolation of showing where it lies, by way of caution to his fellow creatures.

I have reason to think that among the opponents of homœopathy, none is more aware than yourself, or less disposed to deny that the majority of the votaries of allopathia, imbued, as heretofore, with a sense of her supposed dignity and scholastic superiority, still shunned the tabooed dwelling of the new comer ; and acting on mere reports and assumptions, condemn what they refuse to know, and think it a disgrace in a matter of life and death to be able to judge for themselves. What particular medicine more than another cures this or that disease, seems to be the utmost stretch of their inquiry; but why —by what permanent, inherent quality this medicine performs the cure is a question, which although the true one, is scarcely ever asked. The curative effects of a remedy in presence of disease, gleaned from the pages of *pharmaco-pœdia*, seems to be all they know or care to know of its specific virtues ; whereas this knowledge, so vital to the healing art, can only be obtained from its primary aggressive actions upon a person in full health ; a fact, the discovery of which by Hahnemann, suffices of itself to gain for him the gratitude of ages. From this admitted fact, susceptible of proof so as to stare one in the face, they turn away with marvellous indifference ; and while they are so active in distilling science, skill, rational medicine, and all kinds of imposing learning from their lips, their real locomotive progress ceases just where it should go on. They certainly have learned the value of the stranger's pharmacy as far superior to their own, else, they would scarcely make so free with it; but then what led to the discovery of medicines in substances not used as such, though not unknown by name, and on what principle those are and ought to be selected, they seem to consider beyond the sphere of their profession. Hence it is that they either do not know, or will not own, that at this very moment they are treading in the steps of their opponents, and differ from them only in the want of precaution. While they continue to denounce poor homœopathy as a sheer humbug, and while their unleashed war dogs bark as loud as ever at her passing shadow, they are actually doing homage to her fundamental creed, "the

like cure the like," by her administering her remedies, not only so far as each remedy becomes strictly homœopathic when directed against a disease the like of which it produces in a healthy person, but in the sense of full unqualified acceptance of such as are emphatically her own and stand conspicuously on her list. Thus, in *congestions to the head, scarlatinas, acute inflammatory fevers, inflammatory fevers, inflammation of the lungs, croup, trachitis, peripneumonia, and final consumptions*, varying in kind, but alike in their fatal terminations, they give *Belladonna, Aconite, quinine, iron, ipacacuanæ, and tartar-emetic*, all which respectively produce the like diseases in the mortal state of the body, and in so high a degree as to cause death if persevered in, or not soon enough suspended.

This is what they are doing now, and this is neither more or less than the veritable homœopathia herself ! ! A step farther this way, and all would be right ; but they refuse to take this step, and then what follows is a wanton abuse of means, a bare-face disregard of the laws of inference, and an unnatural violation of the cause by its effects. It is in advance so far as there is less groping in the dark, less guesswork in the drug compounds, less latitude and fancy in prescriptions ; but it is an advance that stops just where it cuts the patient off from all the benefits of old uncertainty, and from all chances of escape by means of blunders that were wont to contradict each other.

Nature alone being invested with the power of cure, a remedy can do no more harm than, by a dynamic union, add so much of its strength to the disease as to insure his spoil of life, or so little as just to quicken his growth into maturity, and end the monster before her vital forces are exhausted. Whether of this important truth they have any suspicion, or studiously conceal it, they in either case evade the obvious conclusion, that comminution of doses is not a matter of caprice, but the result of absolute necessity, inasmuch as the organ cannot be too tenderly used, which, in addition to the morbid action of disease, already so enfeebling, has to sustain the like remedial action of a more than equal power. The consequence is, that they had the raging conflagration with nothing but combustibles to check it, and thus add fuel to the flame, when they ought to have kindled the small counter fire, as certain to extinguish as it is sure to meet it. Persuaded that what they do not know is not worth knowing, and resolved to stand by each other, come what may, they rack the victim with their noxious drugs

at pleasure, pour poison upon poison, and when death ensues they make homeopathia their scape goat, by proclaiming that in their hands the patient would have died without an effort on her part to save him !

The peril arising from this hateful practice is farther increased by the corresponding course, the more criminal, as no plea of ignorance can be set up in its behalf, of the *pseudo-homeopathists*, who, unfortunately, are neither strangers to this city, nor so far as to be passed by without notice.

These birds of a feather forming a recent clique by themselves, cannot but remember that all their knowledge of homeopathia has been gathered from her lips ; that their own shells were not yet formed when she broke hers ; and fostered by the parent-hand soon in full plumage started into view ; and that the chickens, wise enough to teach the hen, must first be hatched and fledged. Nevertheless they peck at their kind instructress, cluck correction in her ears, and cry out what she ought to be, on the insulting claim to know her better than she does herself !!! Extravagance of presumption and the ingratitude of pupils can go no further !

In vain did the inspired genius whose glorious conception she is, protest against her character being degraded, her credit destroyed, her name desecrated, and her blessings converted into curse, by a forced union with some unclean abortion of the superannuated *alma mater*. The clique compel her to endure the embraces of the boar, decrepid slanderer. They fix the lance in her hands, load her with the forbidden weapons, and fully verify his worst fears and predictions. In vain did he, more anxiously solicitous on this point than any other, insist upon the communion of doses as inseparable from her very nature and existence. The clique increase them *con amore*, and under the cover of his very mantle spurn upon his gift, reject his doctrine, and cry down as a mere ' Hahnemannism,' the most precious fruit of his protracted labors and painful self-experiments !! And yet, forsooth, in face of all this they profess their faith in homeopathia !! Derision and hypocrisy never went so lovingly together !

The only article of faith connected with homeopathy, is '*similis similibus curantur*' It is her all in all, with which she cannot part herself without committing suicide. This, then, if anything, must be what they believe in. If so, upon what principle can they defend, and much less, justify their practice so subversive of their

own belief, that the increased strength of a dose which is akin to the disease, must be the like increase of strength for the disease itself; and superadded to its own, must make it irresistible ? They have assigned yet no good reason, and likely never will. They may attempt to explain by saying, for it is all they can say, that it is the result of their own experience; but what is their own puny experience to that of one whose temple had been for more years than they have yet lived, crowded with the sick from the great nations of the earth, who had for half a century perilled his body as a test of remedies announced by him as such, and whose ability to state the truth was full as great as his desire and interest to seek and to reveal it. Empiricism may plume itself upon its feats of cure, which only show that there are patients strong enough to survive them ; but the great shade of Hahnemann, and his tried, faithful disciples, have a claim to a more respectful explanation than such as would impugn the warranty of facts too much respected to be called in question. If the clique really have a pet—some *pathia* of their own—why do they keep it back ? Why do they not come forth like men, place it on its own merits, and boldly vindicate its title to ' a name and local habitation ? ' If, on the other hand, they should set up the honest plea of total disbelief in homeopathia, why do they wear her colors, and profess to be what they are not ? Why should they make her, by this fraud, a mere by-word, a seeming humbug, the scape-goat of their own misdeeds ? Why should the open frequency of their rebellion against her rule, furnish her enemies with a constructive proof that she and all her followers who thus betray their want of confidence in her, are arrant knaves, quacks and impostors ? The clique may be all kinds of *pathists* at their own discretion ; but homeopathists they are none, and it is time that all should know it. A voice from the tomb, that will be heard throughout eternity, abjures them all as base, sinister counterfeits, foes in disguise, stabbing the priestess in whose temple they profess to worship. The sooner they are driven away from the sacred precincts the greater will be the benefit conferred upon the human race.

Thus, by a sort of a tacit, gradual approximation of the adverse systems, the champions on both sides being false alike to their creeds, the two extremes have been brought at length to meet at half way, and presently, from this unhallowed contact, not yet openly acknowledged, sprang the new-fangled mischief, the prac-

tice now in vogue, nought less than homœopathy armed to the teeth with allopathic doses ! —An enemy more dangerous and destructive to health than this hideous, misbegotten hermaphrodite, has never yet been pressed into the service of the medical profession !

We recommend all who feel an interest in the progress of truth in the healing art to read this work.

### ART OF MEDICINE.

From the time of the first application of drugs, in the treatment of diseases, there has been a lamentable want of fixed and well known principles to guide the physician in their administration. Hence, they have always been used experimentally, hence the unlimited multiplication of remedies and the incessant change in their use. For, there being no known and established relation between the different drugs, and the great variety in the form of disease, it has been impossible to establish either permanency or uniformity. What would at one time cure or relieve one man, would at another fail to do this or else aggravate his state—what would favorably effect one constitution, or disease in one individual, often produced an adverse effect in another ; and hence a series of changes in remedies, doses and manner of administering, till it has come at last to be fairly admitted, (and lamented,) that the means for curing the sick are inadequate, uncertain, and generally injurious ; so that other means must be devised, other and more perfect knowledge of therapeutic agents must be had or the system must end.

Besides the want of a general and fundamental principle in therapeutics for the cure of ordinary attacks of diseases, the latent chronic maladies have never been arrested in their progress, but have been left to work their sure, but slow course in undermining the system and terminating, prematurely, and with fatal certainty, the life of the poor patient, after years of unmitigated suffering. The fact of failure in curing chronic affections is a death-blow to the whole art, for the acute outbreaks of disease will yield to a thousand means of relief, and in the majority of cases, to the powers of unassisted nature ; and in those cases, which are exceptions to this remark, there is disease of a latent kind, which remains uncured perhaps not even arrested, notwithstanding an outbreak of it may have been palliated and

relieved for the time, by bleeding, blistering, emetics, cathartics, or steaming, it matters little which.

Disease having a dynamic origin, has never been eradicated, except by accident, and this accident has been upon a principle unknown to the physician or patient.

That chronic maladies have their origin in a limited number of cases, is most unquestionable, and these are beyond doubt, of a specific character, and requiring specific treatment for their eradication, when once they have disturbed the vital powers. Till the discovery (made by Hahnemann) of the true origin of chronic maladies, and of the specific curative powers of drugs, and the law for their application, they have never (except in accidental and occasional cases when drugs have been specifically administered) been cured. But since the discovery, not only Hahnemann, but those who have acknowledged the truth of his doctrine, and adopted his method of treating disease, have been successful in the treatment of these maladies.

Many sufferings and difficulties often resembling those produced by a latent miasma, are caused by exposure to noxious influences; bad air, unwholesome diet, over indulgence in eating and drinking, want of proper exercise, or over exertion of the physical and mental powers, irregular hours of sleep, neglect of healthful ablutions, depressing mental affections, &c. These affections need only an attention to the laws of health for their eradication ; but those produced by the poisoning influence of some specific miasma, which may have been inherited, or contracted in infancy, require for their eradication *specific remedies*, administered upon a (now) well known law of cure, and which the homœopathic physician alone is enabled to apply. The vital powers, of themselves, can never rid the system of them—neither will any amount of care and attention to the general state of the system, or conditions of health, serve for this purpose. This discovery, the greatest that has ever been made, while it furnishes the medical profession with a principle upon which they may establish true science, and is the very desideratum so long sought after, and so confident of discovery, is destined to work a complete revolution in the healing art, and not only this, but in all the social and physical relations of human life.

"The principles upon which homœopathy is founded, and the services it renders to suffering humanity, prove that this is the system

of medicine which has been so long and so vainly sought after till the present day."

### WHOOPING COUGH.

There are several drugs which are appropriate to the different conditions of whooping cough; but our object in calling attention to this disease at this time is, to caution mothers and others against the too free use of *Ipecacuanha*, in cases where this drug is homoeopathic to the disease, as the difficulty would in such case be greatly increased, and fatal consequence ensue from the administration of this drug in large doses. In whooping cough, attended by "dry, shaking, and spasmodic cough, and fits of suffocation; stiffness of the body and bluish face; with bleeding from the nose and mouth, and vomiting of food, ipecacuanha is the remedy, and should be given in a high attenuation. We have had three cases of this disease under treatment for the last three days, with symptoms similar to the above; each child took a teaspoonful every four hours of a solution of ipecacuanha, of the 30th potency. The most severe case of the three, to our astonishment, was decidedly relieved in twelve hours; the effect upon the others was not as strongly marked, yet there was enough to satisfy us that the drug, in this potency, was exerting a favorable influence upon the disease.

We have been politely furnished by Mr. C. L. Rademacher, 39 North Fourth Street, Philadelphia, with two copies of the Transactions of the American Institute of Homœopathy, vol. 1, of which he is the publisher; this is a vol. (duodecimo) of 300 pages, handsomely bound, and contains the minutes of the second and third sessions of the Institute; the report of the Central Bureau for the augmentation and improvement of the *Materia Medica*, which exhibits a careful and zealous discharge of its duties; together with the history and pathogenetic powers of the following remedies:

*Acidum Benzoicum*, by Jacob Jeans, M. D.  
*Lobelia Inflata*        "       "

*Acidum Fluoricum*, by Constantine Hering, M. D.

*Kalmia Latifolia*,

*Acidum Oxalicum*, by Charles Neidhard, M. D.

*Elaterium*, by C. B. Matthews, M. D.  
*Eupatorium Perfoliatum*, by Walter Williamson, M. D.

*Podophyllum Peltatum*,       "       "

*Triosteum Perfoliatum*,       "       "

*Lobelia Cardinalis*, by Samuel R. Dubs, M. D.

*Sangninaria Canadensis*.

And a repertorium by

WM. P. ESREY, M. D.

No commendation other than the fact of the self sacrificing spirit, the arduous and painful labors, the severe sufferings, and hazard to health and life, need be bestowed upon those, who, from a love of science and regard for the sufferings of humanity, thus make trials of drugs upon their own persons. This work should be in the hands of every physician.

### THE SPIRIT OF THE HOMEOPATHIC DOCTRINE.

BY SAMUEL HAHNEMANN.

Translated by Geddes M. Scott, M. D., of Glasgow, Scotland.

"From seeming evil still educating good."

To know the essence of diseases, and the hidden changes which they effect in the body, is beyond the reach of the human understanding; there is, therefore, an absurdity in pretending to found the treatment upon conjectures formed on this subject. We cannot guess the curative virtue of medicines by means of chemical hypothesis, nor by the impressions which they produce on the smell, the sight, or the taste: it is, therefore, equally absurd to endeavor, in accordance with presumptions which arise from such a source, to apply to the curing of diseases, substances, the misuse of which is attended with so much risk. In vain should such a method plead the general custom in its favor, or even that it is the only one which has been followed for thousands of years—it is not, on that account, the less opposed to nature and to the interests of mankind to assume as truths, vague hypotheses with regard to the essential nature of diseases, and to combat them with medicinal virtues equally hypothetical.

It is necessary that our senses should be able clearly to discern what it is in each malady that must be removed in order to restore health

and that each medicine should express, in a distinct and appreciable manner, what it can cure with certainty, before we can be in a condition to employ it against any disease whatever. Without this, the practice of medicine will not cease to be a kind of lottery in which the life of our fellow creatures is the stake, and it will never become a means of relief to the sick. I propose to show what is presented to us in diseases, which is really capable of cure, and what method we must adopt to convince ourselves of the curative virtues which medicines possess, in order that we may afterwards employ these substances as remedies.

Life can be known only empirically, i. e. through its manifestations or phenomena, and it is absolutely impossible to form an idea of it *a priori*, by means of metaphysical speculations. Never shall mortals perceive, never shall they discover by conjectures, what life is in itself, and in its intimate essence.

The life of man and its two conditions—health and sickness—cannot be explained by any of the principles which serve to explain other objects. Life cannot be compared to anything in the world except itself. No relation subsists between it and a hydraulic or other machine, a chemical operation, a decomposition and production of gas, or a galvanic battery. In a word, it resembles nothing which does not live.

(To be Continued.)

### THIRD ANNIVERSARY MEETING OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF HOMEOPATHIA.

*At Philadelphia, on Wednesday, May 13,  
1846.*

The meeting was fully attended. Members were present from all the Northern, and from many Western and Southern States—from Maine, Missouri, and Virginia.

The utmost harmony and good feeling prevailed; there was evidently an exalted spirit of confidence, energy, and zeal actuating the minds and influencing the conduct of those present; and the accounts given of the rapid advancement of the Homeopathic doctrine, and the Homeopathic practice throughout the country, were truly gratifying and satisfactory. In truth its progress and success may challenge comparison with that of any science or

any reformation in any age of the world. Much important information was received, many measures were adopted that are destined to tell upon the interest and prosperity of the Institute, and of true art in medicine. Subjects were introduced that gave rise to highly interesting and eloquent discussions, and the Institute adjourned with strengthened hopes, elevated purposes and increased zeal in the promotion of true science in the healing art, and the happiness and prosperity of the human race, so far as the laws of health and life are concerned.

Dr. S. R. Kirby, of New York, was elected President, and Drs. Edward Bayard and R. A. Snow, also of New York, were elected secretaries.

The "Central Bureau" for the reformation and augmentation of the *Materia Medica*, made a report which was in a printed volume; entitled, "Vol. I. of the Transactions of the American Institute of Homœopathy."—This work is noticed in another column of this Journal.

Dr. Simon F. Havens, of Utica, N. Y., Daniel Holt, M. D., of Lowell, Mass., and Oscar Sceitz, M. D., were admitted to membership of the Institute. The Northampton Society in Pa. announced the death of its late President, Eberhard Freytag, M. D., and Dr. Mc Manus of Baltimore, moved appropriate resolutions which were adopted.

A new Constitution and By-Laws were reported by Dr. Williamson, of Philadelphia, from the committee on that subject, and adopted.

Letters were received from Drs. W. E. Payne of Bath, Me., Wm. Price, of Cincinnati, and D. S. Smith, of Chicago, Ill.

Dr. Payne, after expressing his regret at being prevented from attending the meeting of the Institute, goes on to say, "As late as the year 1840, there was no resident practitioner of homœopathy in Maine. Previous to this time I had thought but little about it, except to regard it as one of the 'thousand and one humbugs' of the day. My attention, however, being called to it more particularly at this period, I commenced an investigation of the subject, which resulted in a conviction of its truth, and without entering into a detail of my progress or transition from the allopathic practice to the homœopathic, as I should be glad to do, if I had time, I will say that I publicly renounced the allopathic method of practice, and determined to stand or fall by the

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results of a practice according to the law, *si-  
milia similibus curantur.*

Since that time, seven others have embraced it, making at this time eight regularly educated physicians in full practice. I have to add, that its prospects never appeared brighter, or more promising of universal triumph than at the present moment. That homeopathy will eventually triumph, both in the estimation of the public and over diseases, I have not a doubt. But whether its progress is to be *right* onward or not, will depend wholly upon the spirit of those who have embraced this great truth, and have courage enough to carry it forth into the world. A union of purpose among homeopathic physicians, a determined energy, and unmitigated industry, will ensure to our beloved science a more rapidly brilliant success than has ever marked the cause of any science."

Dr. Eliphilet Clark, of Portland, Me., moved the following resolutions, which, after much interesting discussion, were unanimously adopted, *viz* :—

*Whereas*, the leading object of the American Institute of Homeopathy is the augmentation and improvement of the *Materia Medica*; therefore,

1. *Resolved*, That this Institute recommend the formation of local Homeopathic Medical Societies, on the basis of the American Institute of Homeopathy.

2. *Resolved*, That each local society be recommended to appoint a bureau for the augmentation and improvement of the *materia medica*, whose duty it shall be to send on to the Central Bureau information in relation to the following topics :

1. The effects which may be observed from the trial of new remedies, whether in health or disease; stating the precise localities of the symptoms; the times of the day at which they occur, with all the attending circumstances and conditions.

2. New symptoms, either pathogenetic or curative of medicines already, or not fully tried, which are clearly ascribable to those drugs, with the particulars of each case.

3. Symptoms of remedies which have been most frequently confirmed in popular practice, also any remarkable coincidence in popular practice, and especially in cases of poisoning.

3. *Resolved*, That it is expected that each local society will report itself annually to the Institute.

4. *Resolved*, That each member of the Institute be earnestly desired to make trial of drugs upon himself.

The Chairman appointed Walter Williamson, M. D., of Philadelphia; F. R. McManus, M. D., of Baltimore; James M. Quin, M. D., of New York; Eliphilet Clark, M. D., of Portland, Me.; and Samuel Gregg, M. D., of Boston, a Standing Committee on the Election of Members.

The General Secretary was authorized to grant certificates of membership to members at any time during the year, on receiving one dollar for the same. The following gentlemen constitute the "Central Bureau" for the coming year. Constantine Hering, M. D.; Jacob Jeans, M. D.; Charles Neidhard, M. D.; Walter Williamson, M. D., and James Kitchenen, M. D., all of Philadelphia.

Dr. Jacob Jeans reported an address to physicians in the United States, which was unanimously adopted, and ordered to be published with the proceedings.

Edward Bayard, M. D., of New York, was appointed by the Chairman to deliver an address to the Institute, on the evening of the first day of the next Annual Session of the Institute, which is to be held in Boston, Mass., on the second Wednesday in June, 1847.

The following is a list of the members of the Institute :—

Adams, Henry, M. D., Coxsackie, N. Y.  
Adams, R. E. W., M. D., Cleveland, O.  
Anderson, M., M. D., Philadelphia, Pa.  
Andrews, J. R., M. D., Camden, N. J.  
Annin, J. D., M. D., Elizabethtown, N. J.  
Atwood, M., M. D., Francistown, N. H.  
Ball, A. S., M. D., N. Y. City.  
Barlow, S. B., M. D., N. Y. City.  
Bauer, A., M. D., Cincinnati, O.  
Barrowes, Ira, M. D., Pawtucket, R. I.  
Bartlett, E. M., M. D., St. Louis, Mo.  
Bayard, Edward, M. D., N. Y. City.  
Belcher, Geo. E., M. D., N. Y. City.  
Bell, Sanford, M. D., Philadelphia, Pa.  
Belt, R. G., M. D., Plymouth, Mass.  
Bennett, H., Dr. Cayuga Co., N. Y.  
Berens, Bernard, M. D., Philadelphia, Pa.  
Berens, Joseph, M. D., Philadelphia, Pa.  
Bloss, Richard, M. D., Troy, N. Y.  
Boardman, J. C., M. D., Trenton N. J.  
Boiles, R. M., M. D., N. Y. City.  
Bowers, B. F., M. D., N. Y. City.  
Bowers, Josiah, L. D., Smithtown, L. I.  
Bradford, Richmond, M. D., Auburn, Me.  
Brown, Wm. R., M. D., Oneida Co. N. Y.  
Bryan, R. S., M. D., Troy, N. Y.  
Burritt, A. H., Dr. Burton, Geauga Co., O.  
Bute, G. H., M. D., Nazareth, Pa.  
Cator, H. Hull, M. D., Syracuse, N. Y.  
Channing, Wm., M. D., N. Y. City.  
Child, Amheris, M. D., Waterloo, N. Y.  
Clark, Eliphilet, M. D., Portland, Me.  
Clark P., Dr., Coventry, R. I.  
Cook, Geo. W., M. D., N. Y. City.

- Cook, A. P., M. D., Hudson, N. Y.  
 Critenden, W. H., Dr., Bergen Co., N. J.  
 Critenden, J., Dr., Morris Co., N. J.  
 Crosby, —, Dr., Akron, Summit Co., O.  
 Detwiller, H., M. D., Hellertown, Pa.  
 Dubs, Samuel R., M. D., Philadelphia, Pa.  
 Duonell, H. G., M. D., N. Y. City.  
 Dutcher, B. C., M. D., N. Y. City.  
 Ehrman, B., Dr., Lancaster, Pa.  
 Ehrman, F., Dr., Hagerstown, Md.  
 Ehrman, F., Dr., Baltimore Md.  
 Esrey, W. P., M. D., Philadelphia, Pa.  
 Fairchild, S., M. D., Parsippany, N. J.  
 Flagg, Josiah F., M. D., Boston, Mass.  
 Freeman, G., M. D., N. Y. City.  
 Fuller, Milton, M. D., Medford, Mass.  
 Gallup, Wm., M. D., Bangor, Me.  
 Gardiner, Richard, M. D., Philadelphia, Pa.  
 Gardiner, W. A., M. D., Philadelphia, Pa.  
 Gilbert, Jas. B., M. D., Savannah, Ga.  
 Gosewisch, C., M. D., Wilmington, Del.  
 Gray, John F., M. D., N. Y. City.  
 Green, J., M. D., Washington, D. C.  
 Gregg, Samuel, M. D., Boston, Mass.  
 Guernsey, H. N., M. D., Frankford, Pa.  
 Hale, Eben, M. D., Boston, Mass.  
 Hallock, L., M. D., N. Y. City.  
 Harris, Z. H., Dr., N. Y. City.  
 Havens, S. F., M. D., Utica, N. Y.  
 Haynel, A. F., M. D., N. Y. City.  
 Helmuth, Wm. S., M. D., Philadelphia, Pa.  
 Hempel, C. J., M. D., N. Y. City.  
 Hering, C., M. D., Philadelphia, Pa.  
 Holt, Daniel, M. D., Lowell, Mass.  
 Hoyt, D. O., M. D., Cleaveland, Ohio.  
 Hull, A. G., M. D., N. Y. City.  
 Hull, A. Cook, M. D., N. Y. City.  
 Humphreys, E., Dr., Utica, N. Y.  
 Ingalls, Wm., Sen., M. D., Boston, Mass.  
 James, D., M. D., Byberry, Pa.  
 James, Isaac, M. D., Holmesburg, Pa.  
 Janney, D., Dr., Loudon Co., Va.  
 Jeanes, Jacob, M. D., Philadelphia, Pa.  
 Jones, E. D., M. D., Albany, N. Y.  
 Joslin, B. F., M. D., N. Y. City.  
 Kern, B. J., M. D., Philadelphia, Pa.  
 Kimball, D. S., Dr., N. Y. City.  
 Kirby, S. R., M. D., N. Y. City.  
 Kitchen, James, M. D., Philadelphia, Pa.  
 Leon, Alexis, M. D., Philadelphia, Pa.  
 Lingen, Geo., M. D., Yellow Springs, Pa.  
 Lippe, A., M. D., Carlisle, Pa.  
 Loomis, J. G., M. D., Syracuse, N. Y.  
 Lovejoy, E., M. D., Oswego, N. Y.  
 Mairs, J., m. d., N. Y. City.  
 Manchester, C. E., m. d., Pawtucket, R. I.  
 McManus, F. R., m. d., Baltimore, Md.  
 Mathews, Caleb B., M. D., Philadelphia, Pa.  
 McVickar, J. A., m. d., N. Y. City.  
 Merrill, John, m. d., —, Me.  
 Morrel, —, Dr., Akron, Summit Co., O.  
 Neidhard, Chas., m. d., Philadelphia, Pa.  
 Okie, A. H., m. d., Providence, R. I.  
 Orme, John, m. d., Pennsylvania.  
 Paine, Henry, m. d., Albany N. Y.  
 Paine, John A., m. d., Newark, N. J.  
 Payne, John, m. d., Belfast, Me.  
 Payne, W. E., m. d., Bath, Me.  
 Palmer, W. C., m. d., N. Y. City.  
 Peak, J. M., Dr., Cooperstown, N. Y.  
 Pehrson, J. G., m. d., Philadelphia, Pa.  
 Peirson, E. D., m. d., N. Y. City.  
 Piper, J. R., m. d., Washington, D. C.  
 Price, Wm., m. d., Cincinnati, Ohio.  
 Pulte, J. H., m. d., Cincinnati, Ohio.  
 Quin, Jas., M., N. Y. City.  
 Rea, Albus, M. D., Portland, Me.  
 Reilay, J. P., m. d., Brooklyn, N. Y.  
 Rhees, Morgan J., m. d., Mount Holly, N. J.  
 Robinson, H., m. d., Auburn, N. Y.  
 Romig, J., m. d., Allentown, Pa.  
 Rosa, Storm, m. d., Painesville Ohio.  
 Rosman, Robert, m. d., Brooklyn, N. Y.  
 Royston, T. P., m. d., Lockport, N. Y.  
 Sceitz, Oscar, m. d.  
 Schmidt, J., m. d., Baltimore, Md.  
 Schmele, H., m. d., Philadelphia, Pa.  
 Schwartz, Gust., Dr., Philadelphia, Pa.  
 Scherrill, H., m. d., N. Y. City.  
 Sheppard, —, Dr., Bainbridge Co. O.  
 Schue, J., m. d., Hartford, Ct.  
 Sims, Francis, m. d., Philadelphia, Pa.  
 Skiff, C. H., m. d., New Haven.  
 Smith, Edward M. m. d., Philadelphia, Pa.  
 Smith, D. S., m. d., Chicago, Ill.  
 Small, A. E., m. d., Philadelphia, Pa.  
 Snow, R. A., m. d., N. Y. City.  
 Sullivan, John L., m. d., N. Y. City.  
 Stevens, C. A., m. d., Lockport, N. Y.  
 Swazey, Geo. W. m. d., Springfield, Mass.  
 Taft, G. M., m. d., New Orleans, La.  
 Taylor, John, m. d., N. Y. City.  
 Ward, Walter, m. d., Philadelphia, Pa.  
 Ward, J. M., m. d., Albany, N. Y.  
 Ward, P., m. d., Troope,  
 Weld, C. M., m. d., Roxford, Mass.  
 Wells, P. P., m. d., Brooklyn, N. Y.  
 Wesselhoeft, W., m. d., Boston, Mass.  
 Whitehead, C. M. D., Harrisburg, Pa.  
 Wild, Chas., m. d., Brookline, Mass.  
 Williams, C. D., m. d., Cleveland, O.  
 Williams, T. S., m. d., Germantown, Pa.  
 Williamson, W., m. d., Philadelphia, Pa.  
 Wilsey, F. L., m. d., N. Y. City.  
 Wilson, A. D., m. d., N. Y. City.  
 Witherill, E. C., m. d., Canandaigua, N. Y.  
 Withy, Samuel J., Dr., Philadelphia, Pa.  
 Wright, Clark, m. d., N. Y. City.

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No. 488 Broadway, corner of Broome street.  
 J. T. S. Smith has a large assortment of Homeopathic Medicines, in tinctures, triturations, dilutions and globules; Arnica flowers; Sugar of Milk, Pure Alcohol, Distilled Water, Pellets, &c., &c. Physician's Pocket and Family Cases of Medicine on hand, and prepared to order. Homeopathic Plasters a substitute for ordinary Court and Adhesive Plaster, and an excellent application for Corns.